

NAACP Alabama State Conference
Edward Vaughn, President
P.O. Box 9581
Dothan, AL 36304

October 13, 2009

Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: FCC Docket #: 07-52

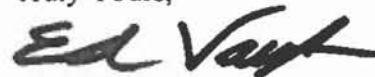
Dear Chairman Genachowski,

As President of the Alabama State Conference of the NAACP, and a former Michigan state legislator, I can appreciate the many difficult issues you and your fellow Commissioners are struggling with. As the Federal Communications Commission consider imposing so called Net Neutrality regulations on traditional wireline and wireless broadband networks, I write to ask you to consider the potential negative impact such regulations would have on lower income citizens of Alabama.

For many years the Alabama NAACP has fought to protect those most economically vulnerable in our society. In fact, during this year's session of the Alabama General Assembly we fought—and I personally testified—to ensure a deregulation bill, SB 373, included a safety net by adding a Lifeline and Link-up program to help pay the basic service of low income Alabamians. This monthly financial assistance also applies to wireless phones. Therefore, any unnecessary regulations on wireless providers might slow down investment in infrastructure, innovation, and discourage investment by the private sector. The communications industry in Alabama is competitive. Most consumers have access to wireless, VoIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) and broadband. We need to encourage more broadband and high speed internet deployment. However, particularly since America is still recovering from a national recession, the FCC should not impose Net Neutrality regulations and slow down economic growth.

Thank you for your consideration.

Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Vaughn", written in a cursive style.

Edward Vaughn
President